



MOUNT BARKER
WALDORF SCHOOL

Term 4
Week 1 – 2025
Newsletter

From the Principal

Dear Mount Barker Waldorf School Community,

Welcome back to Term 4! I hope everyone had a safe and joyful break and that you are returning with energy and vigour for another term full of learning and growth. The last term of the year brings with it an anticipation, as well as a sense of completeness for the year.

Recently I came across an image that feels just right for this time of year. Each of us is in the driver's seat of a car. We can choose to keep our gaze fixed on the rearview mirror, always looking back at what has already happened, or we can look through the windscreen to the road ahead – to possibility.

The truth is, we need both views. What has happened in the past shapes who we are here and now, it gives us the experience, wisdom, and strength we carry into the present. But it is the view ahead that brings possibility, growth, and joy. Looking forward allows us to steer with courage and curiosity, rather than being held back by what has already passed.

This is not about ignoring the challenges of the journey, but about recognising that even the harder moments can become gateways, stepping stones to new insights, fresh energy, and the next breakthrough.

As we move through Term 4 together, let's honour the road behind us while keeping our eyes firmly on the way ahead which flows into and through next year. May we finish the year with gratitude for what has shaped us, and with excitement for all that is still to come.

Warmly,

Liam Waterford

Principal

Key dates this week

Monday 13 October

Class 11 Botany Camp

Grampians National Park
13 - 24 October 2025

Tuesday 14 October

MBWS PTA Meeting

Beehive
6pm - 9pm

Wednesday 15 October

Class 3 Ulli's Farm Excursion

Handorf
10.45am - 3pm

OSHC ~Afternoons Only

Monday-Friday PM

School finish-6.00pm
(\$30 flat rate)

To book, please email
oshc@mbws.sa.edu.au

TERM 4, 2025

**Monday 13 October
to
Friday 12 December**

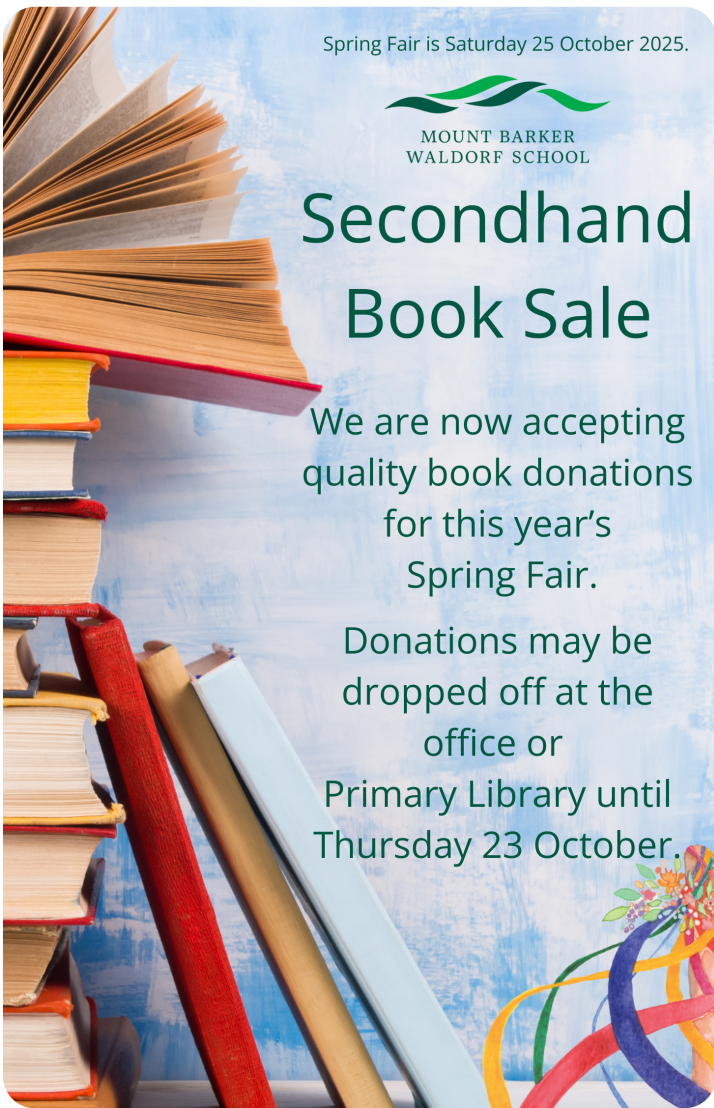
Spring Fair is Saturday 25 October 2025.



Secondhand Book Sale

We are now accepting quality book donations for this year's Spring Fair.

Donations may be dropped off at the office or Primary Library until Thursday 23 October.



Upcoming Events

Wednesday 22 October

Gardening Morning in Kindergartens

Kindergartens

9am - 11am



Save the Date

Class Twelve

Special Project Presentations

Friday 14 November 2025

Saturday 15 November 2025

Mount Barker Waldorf School
Living Arts Centre



Photo credit: Hamish Robinson



If you have any feedback for the MBWS Board, please contact them via email at: secretary@mbws.sa.edu.au



Eurythmy for adults

Mondays
9.15am - 10.15am



Friends of the Plant Nursery

Tuesdays:
9.15 - 10.45am

Meet at School
Plant Nursery



Beehive

Tuesdays
9am - 11am
Cafe and Shop

**PARENT CRAFT
ON
HOLD**



Yoga Thursdays

A slow pace yoga class suited for everyone.

Teachers: 8-8.30am
Students: 8.30-8.55am
Parents: 9.15-10am

High School Schoolbox update

Welcome to a New Term of Learning!

We're looking forward to another term filled with growth, creativity and meaningful learning experiences.

To help make the connection between home and school even smoother, the High School faculty have recently reviewed our **Schoolbox communication settings**, incorporating valuable feedback from our recent **Parent Survey**. Thank you for sharing your thoughts and suggestions, your input helps us improve how we keep you informed.

Updates to the Parent Email Digest

From this term, parents will continue to receive the **Schoolbox email digest at 5pm each afternoon**, summarising any news or updates from the day. You can easily read more by clicking on each article's title.

For **High School parents**, the digest now includes a **new section** showing when teachers have marked your child's work. This addition aims to give you a clearer view of your child's learning progress.

Our teachers have also been refining how assessment information is managed in Schoolbox to ensure everything you see is **accurate and up to date**. Over the coming weeks, you may notice improvements as these updates are implemented. Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's learning journey.

Warm regards,

Eleanor and the High School Faculty Team

Schoolbox Tips

*Did you know that Schoolbox is web-based?

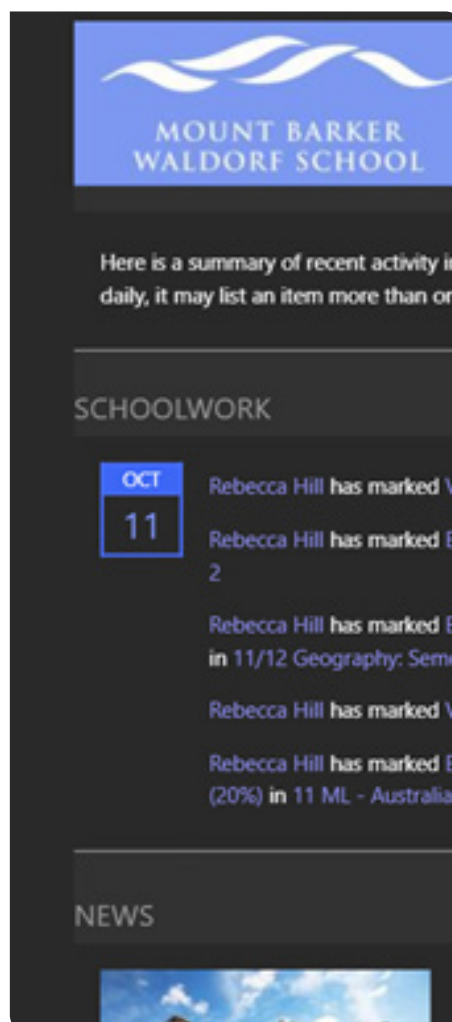
To log in to Schoolbox and see details on your child's learning, use the following link (no need to search through your emails to get in)!

Schoolbox.mtbarkerwaldorf.sa.edu.au

Bookmark the page to easily find it again.

*Having trouble logging in?

Ring the front office for support with your log in and password.



Wellbeing - Notice of Counselling Placement in the High School

This week we will be welcoming Hannah Parker to our school. Hannah worked in the school previously as a High School Student Support Officer, and has since pursued her passion of qualifying to be a counsellor. Hannah will be here this term doing her final placement for her Graduate Diploma in Counselling. Hannah was a much loved and valued colleague and developed many positive relationships with students during her time here. We are excited that Hannah has requested to return to us to complete her studies.

Hannah will be working in the High School as a Student Counsellor alongside Linda Weddell. She will be doing a combination of direct counselling (individuals), co-therapy with Linda, and informal counselling/support. As she holds a Bachelor of Psychology and has previous experience in the field, Hannah is able to join us on days Linda is not here to offer counselling support to students, and will also have some overlapping days with Linda.

If you have given permission at the beginning of the year for your student to access our Counselling services, your student will be able to have sessions with Hannah if needed. We will let the students know how to book in, and Linda or Class Guardians may also refer students to her. We are grateful for the additional support that Hannah will be able to provide to our school as she completes the requirements of her degree.

If you have any questions, please contact Elise Duffield, at eduffield@mbws.sa.edu.au, who will be supervising Hannah's placement.

Kind regards,
Elise Duffield
Assistant Principal

Bookings made:

- via the front office
- via a teacher/parent or guardian
- or email Linda/Hannah direct at:

hscounsellor@mbws.sa.edu.au



Need to chat?

Why not book a time with your High School Counsellor Linda, for a Thursday or Friday.

All sessions are confidential and about 30 minutes. It's a space to chat about anything, whether small or big. Examples of what students might chat about include anxiety, stress, mood, sleep, friendships, world events, gender and identity, family or school work.

Around Our School

SA Schoolsport Volleyball Day Carnival

Recently Mount Barker Waldorf School filled a Class 7/8 boys and girls teams in the SA Schoolsport Volleyball Day Carnival at the Lights Community and Sports Centre. Our students showed great enthusiasm and courage throughout their games.

Both teams enjoyed wins and our students had a fun time, were respectful and displayed fairness, and teamwork. The opportunity to experience competitive volleyball was beneficial to the students as they learnt more about the game of volleyball.

Congratulations to all the students who proudly represented our school!

Sue Catlow, Teacher



HOST FAMILIES REQUIRED FOR INDIAN STUDENTS IN MAY 2026

For next year's Year 10 Surveying Camp we are excited to once again welcome several students and their teacher, Jayesh, to join us from India. Partnering with students from the Abhaya Waldorf School in India has been a great highlight of previous Surveying Camps for our students and their families, and we are pleased to continue the link between the two schools.

The Abhaya students will be arriving a few days before the commencement of the camp, and depart a couple of weeks later. The students will be working alongside our students for the 4 weeks that they are here, immersing themselves in Surveying and Trigonometry as well as Australian life and culture.

We are seeking host families from the school to accommodate the students while they are in Australia. This will be before and after their Surveying camp, which is currently scheduled for April 27th-8th May. The students will likely arrive on Saturday the 25th of April, and depart around the 24th of May.

This is an exciting opportunity to welcome a teenager from another country into your home to share cultural experiences- a mini-exchange for your family. Previous host families have found it to be a rewarding experience. Many past host families have had two students together in a room and this has also worked well.

Host families will need to be able to provide a room for their host student/s to sleep in during their stay, as well as food. All members of the household over the age of 18 will also need a Working With Children Check. This can be obtained through the school free of charge. There is an honorarium payment of \$25 per day per student to help cover the cost of hosting.

We are also very excited that after some of our students recently visiting Japan, the Kyotonabe Steiner School is also considering visiting us later next year, with possibilities for hosting their students. These are two wonderful opportunities for cultural exchange within our worldwide Waldorf community. Please consider the possibilities for your family to host and let me know as soon as possible.

Elise Duffield

MBWS Japan Trip 2025

All of us returned safe and sound on Sunday 5 October with many wonderful memories, and noticeably toned calf muscles from walking about eight hours a day everyday! I'm very grateful to have had support and guidance from Beck, Matt and Marcelle, Wendy and Elise throughout the trip. Thank you!

We also reconnected with our sister school, Kyotanabe Steiner School. For many MBWS students, the highlight was the homestay experience and the friendships they formed with the Kyotanabe students.

One of my highlights was visiting the sister school and observing some of their lessons too.

Kyotanabe Steiner School has expressed interest in visiting our school next year for about a week, sometime between the end of July and end of August, and I am looking forward to welcoming them and showing our school and country!

Eri Brown
Japanese Teacher

さようならJapan! (Goodbye Japan)



2025 Spring Fair is Saturday 25 October - less than 2 weeks away!!

Spring Fair Day is Around the Corner!

A huge thank you to everyone who has been involved in the preparations for this year's Spring Fair. Your generous time, energy, and creativity have been invaluable. From everyone in Class 4, we want to say how truly grateful we are - this wonderful school event simply wouldn't be possible without you. We're almost there!

Here are a few important announcements to help you navigate the week ahead and the big day itself:

Class Stall Volunteers & Food Handling Reminder

If you haven't already, don't forget to put your name down to help out at your child's class stall. These stalls are a big part of what makes the Spring Fair so special, and your support makes a huge difference.

A friendly reminder for everyone volunteering at food stalls:

Please complete one of the online Food Handling Certificates. It does not take a lot of time, it's easy, and ensures we're all meeting food safety standards on the day.

- [Login Boxes - I'M ALERT Food Safety - FREE Online and Interactive Food Safety Training Program \(imalert.com.au\)](https://www.imalert.com.au/)
- [Home - DoFoodSafely \(health.vic.gov.au\)](https://www.health.vic.gov.au/do-food-safely/)

Marketing & Promotion – You Can Help!

The MBWS Spring Fair Facebook page is buzzing with daily updates and sneak peeks:

<https://www.facebook.com/mtbw.springfair>.

Please help us spread the word by sharing posts on your personal social media. If each family shares just once, we can reach hundreds more people in our wider community!

Spring Fair – On-the-Day Support

We're still looking for extra hands to help with parking and pack-up at the end of the day. Every bit of help makes a big difference!

Please check the roster for areas that need support:

[Unfilled Roster Slots](#)

Feel free to nominate in extended family or friends - many hands make light work!

Baristas Wanted!

If you have barista experience and would like to be part of the action, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact Marcelle at mavgoustinos@mbws.sa.edu.au.

Spring Fair Program & Map

Next week, the full program and map will be sent out electronically. It will include the schedule of events and a layout of the Fair. On the day, look out for **QR codes** around the school grounds to access the digital map on your phone – which will make it super handy for finding your way around!

Finance – Eftpos & Cash

This year, **each Class stall will have an Eftpos machine** to make card payments easy and convenient. We encourage families to use Eftpos where possible.

However, **cash is still welcome**, especially for children enjoying the fun activities. Don't forget to bring gold coins for things like the Treasure Cave, Games, and the Animal Nursery.

*Please note: **Market stalls may not have Eftpos, and cash out will not be available**, so plan ahead if you'd like to purchase handmade goodies from our talented local artisans.*

Sponsorship & Donations

A heartfelt thank you to all who have sponsored or donated items for this year's event - your support is deeply appreciated.

While donations are now closed, if you're interested in contributing next year, please email: waldorfspringfair@gmail.com.

Stall Holders

Stall applications are now closed. If you missed out but would like to be considered for next year, we're building a database - just email waldorfspringfair@gmail.com to be added.

Raffle Tickets

Our online raffle makes it easy to buy tickets and share with friends and family across Australia.

Buy and share here:

<https://rafflelink.com.au/mbwsspringfair2025>

Tickets will also be available for sale at the Info Booth on the day. While you are there, check out the Silent Auction. There are some amazing prizes up for grabs!



Reminder: All physical raffle ticket books (sold or unsold) must be returned to the Office by Friday 24 October.

White Elephant Stall

We won't be hosting a White Elephant Stall this year. Please consider donating your pre-loved items to your favourite local Op Shop.

Second-Hand Clothing

We are no longer accepting donations for the Second-Hand Clothing Stall due to limited space. Thank you for your generosity, and please take any further donations to your local Op Shop.

Thank you again for your incredible support. We can't wait to celebrate with you all at the 2025 Spring Fair!

Warm regards,
The 2025 Spring Fair Coordinating Committee

Spring Fair Silent Auction Artwork on Display in the Front Office



From the Canteen

HOT FOOD

Spinach & feta triangle (V)	\$ 5.00
Vegetable roll (V)	\$ 5.00
Sausage roll	\$ 4.50
Pasty (contains meat)	\$ 5.00
Meat pie	\$ 5.00
Garlic Bread (Monday only)	\$ 3.00
Toasted sandwich	\$ 4.50
on Brezel bread	

Cheese & tomato (V) or

Ham & cheese

SNACKS

Simply DK Potato Chips (90g bag – Classic or Purple)	\$4.00
Fresh Brezel pretzels	\$ 2.50
Anzac cookies (Vegan)	\$ 0.50
Choc chip biscuits	\$ 0.50
Choc chip biscuits (GF)	\$ 0.50
Daily baked treat	\$ 3.50
Bliss ball (Vegan)	\$ 1.00
Juicies ice block (tropical or lemonade)	\$ 2.00

DRINKS

Spring water 600ml	\$ 2.50
Besa juice 300ml	\$ 3.50

(V) – Vegetarian

(GF) – Gluten Free

**For all special dietary needs, please speak to the Canteen staff – we can accommodate all requests!*

LUNCH SPECIALS

\$7.50

Monday

Chickpea Curry

With raita and homemade roti.

Tuesday

Falafel bowl or wrap

With halloumi.

Wednesday

Homemade Sushi

Chicken or vegetarian.

Thursday

Nachos bowl

With cheese, sour cream and guacamole.

Friday

Banh-Mi

Chicken or crispy tofu.



Stargold Puppets

present

Starchild

For 3 year olds and older

At the Mount Barker Waldorf Spring Fair

Saturday 25 October

at 11am and 1.30pm

Cost: \$5 per person

You can find Stargold Puppets on Facebook if you would like to be kept informed about future shows and events.